

361.034

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: :  
Harald RISTAU :  
PCT/DE00/02362 : PCT Date: July 18, 2000  
Serial No.: :  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith :  
For: VACUUM HOLDING DEVICE :  
600 Third Avenue  
New York, NY 10016  
March 13, 2002

*L. Nelson*  
*#4/Pre Amdt. a*  
*6-12-02*

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 1, insert

*A1* --This application is a 371 of PCT/DE00/02362 filed July 18, 2000.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

*A2* *Sub B27* Claim 3 (amended) The vacuum holding device (1) according to claim 1 wherein the connection between the vacuum chamber (5) and the external environment has a conical, spherical or hemispherical bearing surface (8) to accommodate the valve (9).